

as it was written it would not provide enough time for the states to begin working together and cooperating and so that was part of the reason that we adjusted the dates back to allow Senator Schmit and those of us in the agricultural area to work with our neighboring states to get this compact working, and hopefully it will adjust or at least help in some way or another some of the prices for the produce that we do manufacture or produce in this state.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Eret.

SENATOR ERET: Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature, as a member of the Agriculture and Environment Committee, I rise to support this bill and recommend its adoption. It would be the model legislation that would then be proposed by Senator Schmit and those working with him as they go to the other states and present it to them and somewhere it has to start and this would be a good place for Nebraska to have some recognition in leadership in this area. Thank you.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay, there are no further lights on the bill. Senator Schmit, would you like to close?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, since there is so little controversy about this bill, I am concerned I might not have the votes but let's go ahead. I move to advance the bill. I hope the votes are here, I hope there are enough here to advance the bill.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay, the motion is the advancement of LB 628. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Voting aye, Pat.

CLERK: Senator Beutler voting yes.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Please vote. Please vote. Anybody else who wishes to vote? We are about to record. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays on the motion to advance the bill, Mr. President.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay, the bill advances. We are now in a situation where there are 15 people excused, Mr. Clerk, is that right?